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Karen Williams
Midvale Telephone Exchange
P.O. Box 7
2205 Keithley Creek Road
Midvale Idaho 83645

T-02532A-03-0039RE: *Letter from Midvale Telephone re: Granite Mountain Exchange Extended Area Service*

Dear Karen:

Maureen Scott from the Legal Division here at the Commission forwarded to me a copy of the letter you sent to the Commission dated January 5th, 2003. I was hoping you could clarify some things for me.

As you are aware I have received many calls from constituents in the Rio Verde area over the last several months expressing their concern that they are going to receive a 928 area code when and if they signed up for service. Although I was able to ascertain that the main concern from these individuals was the cost associated with local long distance, there were many who also were concerned that the 928 area code designation might negatively impact their home businesses. My position had always been that, although I could understand and sympathize with those individuals concerned about the impact on their business, I felt that the most realistic outcome would be the Commission granting extended service area. After some discussion with Staff, it now appears that changing the area code is, at least, possible.

My concern is that during several recent calls from Rio Verde residents, they have expressed that Midvale had informed them that its most recent request (I would have to assume they are referring to the above-referenced letter) not only sought extended service area but also requested an area code change as a solution. However, after reading the letter, I could find no reference to a request for an area code change.

In order to remain consistent in my communications with constituents who are concerned with this issue, I was hoping you could clarify whether Midvale intends to request an area code change for this exchange as another possible avenue, or whether Midvale intends to only pursue the extended service area option. If you could let me know, I would greatly appreciate it.

Sincerely,

Kevin Barlay
Policy Advisor to
Commissioner Irvin

Arizona Corporation Commission
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JAN 30 2003

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